

PATENT

Attorney Docket No. PTK-228 (120306-157826)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS:

Theriault, et al.

CONFIRMATION NO.:

3243

SERIAL NO.:

10/643,036

GROUP NO.:

3726

FILING DATE:

August 18, 2003

EXAMINER:

Compton, Eric B.

TITLE:

PLATE HANDLING WITH THERMAL TENSIONING

CERTIFICATE OF FIRST CLASS MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence, and any document(s) referred to as enclosed herein, is/are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop Certificate of Corrections Branch, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 27th day of September, 2005.

Linda M. Penta

Mail Stop Certificate of Corrections Branch Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Certificate

SEP **3 0** 2005

Submitted herewith is/are:

or Correc

- 1) Transmittal Form (1 page);
- 2) Request for Certificate of Correction Under 35 U.S.C. § 254 and 37 C.F.R. § 1.322 with Exhibit A (13 pages);
- 3) Certificate of Correction (1 page, in duplicate)
- 4) A return receipt postcard; and
- 5) Certificate of First Class Mailing.

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		XI.	Examiner N	lame	ne Comp		oton, Eric B.	
	FORM		Attorney Docket No.			PTK-228		
			Patent No.			6,868	,608 B2	
			Issue Date	ue Date		Marc	h 22, 2005	
ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)								
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	☐ Check Attached ☐ Copy of Fee Transmittal Form		Formal Drawi	ng(s)]	Appeal Brief (in triplicate)	
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CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS				SIGNATURE BL	oc	K	-	
Direct all correspondence to: Patent Administrator							Respectfully submitted,	
Goodwin Procter LLP Exchange Place							1m	
Boston, MA 02109				Date: September 27, 2005 Reg. No. 50,773			Mark L. Beloborodov, Esq.	
Tel. No.: (617) 570-1000 Fax No.: (617) 523-1231				Tel. No.: (617) 570-1352 Fax No.: (617) 523-1231			Attorney for Applicants	
1	Customer No. 051414				-123	31	Goodwin Procter LLP Exchange Place	
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PATENT

Atty. Docket No: PTK-228

(120306/157826)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INVENTOR(S):

Theriault et al.

PATENT NUMBER:

6,868,608 B2

ISSUE DATE:

March 22, 2005

ASSIGNEE:

Presstek, Inc.

TITLE:

Plate Handling With Thermal Tensioning

Mail Stop Certificate of Corrections Branch Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 254 and 37 C.F.R. § 1.322

The Assignee of record of the above-referenced patent, Presstek, Inc., hereby requests that a Certificate of Correction be issued for U.S. Patent No. 6,868,608 B2 under 35 U.S.C. § 254 and 37 C.F.R. § 1.322. An error is present in the Claims section of the issued patent. The Assignee believes that this error warrants issuance of a Certificate of Correction.

In claim 5, line 4, ";" should be deleted and replaced with --, a--. A copy of the Amendment and Response, dated September 15, 2004, is attached as Exhibit A. The relevant claim language has been highlighted. Accordingly, Assignee respectfully requests correction pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 254 and 37 C.F.R. § 1.322.

A computer-generated copy of PTO Form-1050 is enclosed, in duplicate, and corrects the errors appearing in the above-referenced Letters Patent.

Assignee believes that the error detailed above represents a Patent Office mistake correctable pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 254 and 37 C.F.R. § 1.322. Accordingly, Assignee urges the . Request for Certificate of Correction U.S. Patent No. 6,868,608 B2

Page 2

Commissioner to issue a Certificate of Correction for U.S. Patent No. 6,868,608 B2 reflecting the

correction as it appears on the enclosed PTO Form-1050.

Assignee believes that no fee is required, as the error is due to a Patent Office mistake.

Should this belief be in error, please charge any additional fees to deposit account number

07-1700.

The Patent Office is invited to call the undersigned representative with any questions

concerning the submission.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 27, 2005

Reg. No.: 50,773

Tel. No.: (617) 570-1352

Fax No.: (617) 523-1231

Mark L. Beloborodov, Esq.

Attorney for Assignee

Goodwin | Procter LLP

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Boston, Massachusetts 02109

LIBA/1586916.1



PATENT Atty. Docket No. PTK-228 (465/171)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT:

Theriault et al.

CONFIRMATION NO.:

3243

SERIAL NUMBER:

10/643,036

ART UNIT:

3726

FILING DATE:

August 18, 2003

EXAMINER:

Eric B. Compton

TITLE:

Plate Handling With Thermal Tensioning

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

In response to the Office action mailed June 15, 2004, Applicants respectfully submit the following Amendment and Response. Applicants believe that no fees are due, but the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fees to Deposit Account No. 20-0531.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendment to the Drawings are found on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.

Amendment to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph at lines 16–21 on page 9 with the following amended paragraph:

In accordance with the present invention, a heating element 230 having a partially cylindrical profile may circumferentially surround a portion of supply roll 225205.

Alternatively, a cooling element 235 (e.g., a set of refrigeration coils 237 and appropriate heat-exchange hardware) may be associated with the inner surface of cylinder 215. In general, cylinder 215 is metal, and the plate material on the surface of cylinder 215 will therefore cool by conduction.

Amendments to the Drawings

Applicants amend Figure 2 to correct two typographical errors in which the original label reference number 220 is replaced by label 222 and original label reference number 222 is replaced by label 220. Applicants submit herewith replacement drawing sheet 2 and a marked up drawing sheet 2 reflecting this amendment. Applicants submit that no new matter is introduced by this amendment.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

- 1. (currently amended) A method of mounting a printing plate on a cylinder, the method comprising the steps of:
 - a. establishing a temperature difference between the plate and the cylinder, a temperature of the plate exceeding a temperature of the cylinder, wherein the plate is unmounted externally to the cylinder; and
 - b. wrapping the plate around the cylinder, the temperature difference causing the plate to shrink against the cylinder.
- 2. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the temperature difference is at least 3 °C.
- 3. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the temperature difference is established by heating the plate.
- 4. (original) The method of claim 3 wherein the plate is heated uniformly.
- 5. (cancelled)
- 6. (currently amended) A method of mounting a printing plate on a cylinder, the method comprising the steps of:

a. establishing a temperature difference between the plate and the cylinder, a temperature of the plate exceeding a temperature of the cylinder;

- b. wrapping the plate around the cylinder, the temperature difference causing the plate to shrink against the cylinder. The method of claim 1-wherein the plate is drawn from a roll disposed within the interior of the cylinder and advanced around an exterior surface of the cylinder.
- 7. (original) The method of claim 6 wherein the roll is heated.
- 8. (original) The method of claim 6 wherein the exterior surface of the cylinder is cooled.
- 9. (currently amended) Apparatus for mounting a printing plate on a cylinder, the apparatus comprising:
 - a. means for establishing a temperature difference between the plate and the cylinder, wherein the plate is mounted externally to the cylinder and such that a temperature of the plate exceeds a temperature of the cylinder; and
 - b. means <u>for</u> facilitating wrapping the plate around the cylinder, the temperature difference causing the plate to shrink against the cylinder.
- 10. (original) The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the facilitating means comprises registration pins and clamps.

Application No. 10/643,036

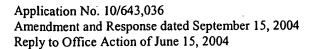
Amendment and Response dated September 15, 2004

Reply to Office Action of June 15, 2004

- 11. (currently amended) Apparatus for mounting a printing plate on a cylinder, the apparatus comprising:
 - a. means for establishing a temperature difference between the plate and the cylinder such that a temperature of the plate exceeds a temperature of the cylinder; and
 - b. means for facilitating wrapping the plate around the cylinder, the temperature difference causing the plate to shrink against the cylinder. The apparatus of elaim 9 wherein the plate is drawn from a roll disposed within the interior of the cylinder and advanced around an exterior surface of the cylinder, the facilitating means comprising:
 - a.(i) means, within the interior of the cylinder, for supporting the roll of plate material; and
 - b.(ii) means, within the interior of the cylinder, for receiving plate material extending over a travel path from the roll of plate material over the exterior surface of the cylinder.
- 12. (original) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the means for establishing a temperature difference comprises means for heating the roll.
- 13. (original) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the means for establishing a temperature difference comprises means for cooling at least the exterior surface of the cylinder.

14. (original) The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the temperature difference is at least 3 °C.

- 15. (original) The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the means for establishing the temperature difference comprises means for heating the plate.
- 16. (original) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the heating means comprises a heated surface conforming substantially to the plate.
- 17. (cancelled)



REMARKS

Administrative Overview

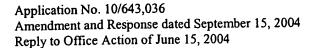
Initially, claims 1–17 were presented for examination. Claims 1, 6, 9, and 11 have been amended, and claims 5 and 17 have been cancelled without prejudice. Upon entry of this paper, claims 1–4 and 6–16 will be pending in this application.

In the Office action mailed on June 15, 2004, claims 1, 3–4, 9, 10, and 15–16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,224,423 to Borel, and claims 1 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 2,219,085 to Watson. Further, claims 2 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Borel, and claims 5 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Borel in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,025,751 to Wright. Claims 6–8 and 11–13 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were deemed allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In light of the foregoing amendments, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1–4, 9, 10, and 14–16 and the objection to claims 6–8 and 11–13 and request reconsideration of these claims. Support for the amendments to the claims may be found, at least, for example, in the specification at page 6, line 6 to page 7 line 2, page 8, lines 19–22, and in Figures 1A and 1B.

Specification and Drawings

Applicants amend the specification and drawings as indicated above to correct typographical errors. Applicants submit that the foregoing amendments are corrections of obvious errors, and that both the errors and the appropriate corrections would be recognizable to a person skilled in the art. Applicants submit that no new matter is introduced by any of the forgoing amendments. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request entry of these Amendments to the specification and drawings.



Rejections of Claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The undersigned wishes to thank the Examiner for his time, helpful suggestions, and courtesy during the telephonic interview that took place on September 9, 2004.

Claims 1, 3–4, 9, 10, and 15–16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Borel. As discussed in the interview, Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 9 to recite that the plate is mounted externally to the cylinder when the temperature difference between the plate and the cylinder is established. Support for these amendments may be found at least at page 6, line 6 to page 7, line 2, page 8, lines 19–22, and in Figures 1A and 1B. Borel, by contrast, does not teach or suggest establishing a temperature difference with the plate mounted externally to the cylinder. Rather, Borel teaches heating the plate when the plate is already in contact with and wrapped around the cylinder, as indicated, for example, in Borel's Figure 1 (reference labels P and Pp) and at column 3, line 63 to column 4, line 3 ("...thermal lengthening due to thermal waves 4 directed by a *concentric* thermal waves emitter 40 onto the cylinder Pp." [Emphasis added.]) Therefore, in light of the foregoing claim amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that amended claims 1 and 9 and their dependents are patentable over Borel.

Claims 1 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Watson. As discussed above, Applicants have amended claim 1 to recite that the plate is mounted externally to the cylinder when the temperature difference between the plate and the cylinder is established. Watson does not teach or suggest establishing a temperature difference with the plate mounted externally to the cylinder. Rather, the establishment of the pre-tensioning temperature difference disclosed by Watson takes place between weld material and the cylinder *after* the mounting of the plate on the cylinder. For example, as cited in part by the Examiner on page 3 of the Office action, Watson discloses at page 2, column 2, lines 62–67:

"In the practice of my invention welds, uniting the sheets into an integral covering, are formed, while the said sheets are compressed about the body member. These welds exert, upon cooling, the tension

desired to draw said integral covering into intimate relation with said body member." [Emphasis added.]

Therefore, in light of the foregoing claim amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 1 is patentable over Watson. Applicants herein cancel claim 5 without prejudice, rendering the rejection of claim 5 moot.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 3-4, 9, 10, and 15-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

Rejections of Claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103

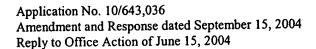
Claims 2 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Borel. Claims 2 and 14 depend respectively from independent claims 1 and 9 which, as currently amended, recite establishing the temperature difference between the plate and the cylinder "wherein the plate is mounted externally to the cylinder." This limitation is significant at least because the establishment of the temperature difference between the plate and the cylinder while the plate is not in contact with the cylinder helps reduce the risk of unwanted plate distortions (and resulting defective printing) caused by friction between the plate and the cylinder as the mounted plate shrinks against the cylinder (page 9, line 22 to page 10, line 1). As discussed above, Borel does not teach or even suggest establishing a temperature difference when the plate is mounted externally to the cylinder. Applicants therefore submit that, following the amendments to claims 1 and 9, Borel does not teach or suggest the subject matter of claims 2 and 14.

Accordingly, in light of the foregoing reasons and amendment to claims 1 and 9, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Claims 5 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Borel in view of Wright. Applicants herein cancel claims 5 and 17 without prejudice.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 6-8 and 11-13 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the



limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter, and amend claims 6 and 11 by rewriting these claims in independent form, including all the limitations of respective base claims 1 and 9. Applicants note that the allowable claims share the advantage discussed in the foregoing paragraph with respect to the reduced risk of thermally-induced plate distortions, as compared to the approach disclosed in the cited art.

Accordingly, in light of the foregoing reason and amendments to claims 6 and 11, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections to claims 6 and 11, and their dependents, claims 7, 8, 12, and 13.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, Applicants submit that claims 1–4 and 6–16 are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conversation with Applicants' attorney would expedite the allowance of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 15, 2004

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Tel. No.: (617) 310-8108

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3114066

Steven J. Frank

Attorney for Applicants

Testa, Hurwitz, & Thibeault, LLP

High Street Tower

125 High Street

Boston, Massachusetts 02110

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE **CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION**

PATENT NO. : 6,868,608 B2 DATED : March 22, 2005 INVENTOR(S): Theriault et al.

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

In claim 5, line 4, ";" should be deleted and replaced with --, a--.

MAILING ADDRESS OF SENDER:

Patent Administrator

Goodwin | Procter LLP **Exchange Place** Boston, MA 02109 (617) 570-1000

Customer No. 051414

LIBA/1586898v1

PATENT NO.: 6,868,608 B2

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE **CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION**

PATENT NO. : 6,868,608 B2 : March 22, 2005 DATED INVENTOR(S): Theriault et al.

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

In claim 5, line 4, ";" should be deleted and replaced with --, a--.

MAILING ADDRESS OF SENDER: Patent Administrator

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PATENT NO.: 6,868,608 B2